UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA DIVISION

Case No. 8:13-cv-1592-17 AEP

CIN-Q AUTOMOBILES, INC., and MEDICAL & CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC, INC., Florida corporations, individually and as the representative of a class of similarly-situated persons,

Plaintiffs,	
v.	
BUCCANEERS LIN and JOHN DOES 1-	ЛІТЕD PARTNERSHIF 10,
Defendants.	

<u>DEFENDANT BUCCANEERS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP'S AMENDED ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL TO PLAINTIFF'S SECOND AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT</u>

Defendant, Buccaneers Limited Partnership (hereinafter "BLP"), by and through its undersigned counsel hereby files its Amended Answer, Affirmative Defenses, and Demand for Jury Trial to Plaintiff's Second Amended Class Action Complaint, and states as follows:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1.	BLP	admits	that	this	case	challenges	the	alleged	practice	that	BLP	sent	unsolicited
facsim	iles bi	ut BLP o	denie	s the	same.								

- 2. Denied.
- 3. Denied.
- 4. Denied.
- 5. Denied.

	JURISDICTION AND VENUE
6.	Admit.
7.	BLP admits that venue is proper but denies that BLP committed a statutory tort.
	<u>PARTIES</u>
8.	Without knowledge, therefore denied.
9.	Without knowledge, therefore denied.
10.	Denied.
11.	Without knowledge, therefore denied.
	FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS
12.	Admit.
13.	Denied.
14.	Denied.
15.	Denied.
16.	Denied.
17.	Denied.
18.	Denied.
19.	Denied.
20.	Denied.
21.	Without knowledge, therefore denied.
22.	Denied.
23.	Denied.

24.

Denied.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

25.

Denied.

(d)

Denied.

26.	Denied.					
27.	Denied.					
	(a)	Denied.				
	(b)	Denied.				
	(c)	Denied.				
	(d)	Denied.				
	(e)	Denied.				
	(f)	Denied.				
	(g)	Denied.				
	(h)	Denied.				
	(i)	Denied.				
	(j)	Denied.				
28.	Denied.					
29.	Denied.					
30.	Denied.					
31.	Denied.					
32.	Denie	ed.				
	(a)	Denied.				
	(b)	Denied.				
	(c)	Denied.				

- (e) Denied.
 - (i) Denied.
 - (ii) Denied.
 - (iii) Denied.
 - (iv) Denied.
 - (v) Denied.
 - (vi) Denied.

COUNT I

Claim for Relief for Violation of the JFPA, 47 U.S.C. §227 et seg.

- 33. BLP reasserts and realleges all responses to paragraphs 1 through 32 as if fully set forth herein.
- 34. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 34 are legal conclusions that do not call for a response, and accordingly, are denied.
- 35. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 35 are legal conclusions that do not call for a response, and accordingly, are denied.
- 36. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 36 are legal conclusions that do not call for a response, and accordingly, are denied.
- 1. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 36(1) are legal conclusions that do not call for a response, and accordingly, are denied.
- 2. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 36(2) are legal conclusions that do not call for a response, and accordingly, are denied.
- 3. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 36(3) are legal conclusions that do not call for a response, and accordingly, are denied.

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37. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 37 are legal conclusions that do not call for a

response, and accordingly, are denied.

A. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 37(A) are legal conclusions that do not call

for a response, and accordingly, are denied.

B. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 37(B) are legal conclusions that do not call

for a response, and accordingly, are denied.

C. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 37(C) are legal conclusions that do not call

for a response, and accordingly, are denied.

D. The allegations set forth in Paragraph 37(D) are legal conclusions that do not call

for a response, and accordingly, are denied.

38. Denied.

39. Denied.

40. Denied.

41. Denied.

42. Denied.

43. Denied.

COUNT II Conversion

44. BLP reasserts and realleges all responses to paragraphs 1, 3 and 8 through 23 as if fully

set forth herein.

45. Denied.

46. Denied.

47. Denied.

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48. Denied.

49. Denied.

50. Denied.

51. Denied.

52. Denied.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

1. BLP affirmatively states that the Plaintiffs had a duty to take reasonable steps to mitigate and/or avoid their alleged damages and failed to do so by failing to opt-out of receiving facsimiles. Furthermore, Medical & Chiropractic Clinic, Inc., failed to follow the directive by the Court to file a motion for default judgment in Medical & Chiropractic Clinic, Inc. v. Michael Wayne Clement, Steve Simms, Wayne Clement and Carl Simms d/b/a Faxqom.com, Case No. 8:12-cv-607-T-26TGW in the United States District Court Middle District of Florida Tampa Division. Additionally, Cin-Q failed to mitigate its damages by not collecting on the judgment in Cin-Q Automobiles, Inc. v. Michael Wayne Clement, doing business as FaxQom.com, Case No. 8:11-cv-01502-JSM-AEP in the United States District Court Middle District of Florida Tampa Division, and to the extent that it has done so, it is not entitled to a recovery from BLP.

- 2. BLP affirmatively states that any alleged unlawful facsimiles were sent by FaxQom and were sent beyond the scope of authority given to FaxQom by BLP. Therefore, any alleged violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act were by FaxQom and BLP is not liable for the same.
- 3. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs' claims are barred as BLP is not vicariously liable for the actions of FaxQom and/or any individuals or entities whom FaxQom hired to send facsimiles.

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4. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs failed to plead that BLP was vicariously liable for

the actions of FaxQom and/or any individuals or entities whom FaxQom hired to send

facsimiles.

5. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs' claims are barred as the Plaintiffs do not have

standing to bring such claims as they cannot established they received faxes from BLP.

6. BLP affirmatively states that BLP is entitled to a set off for the benefits the Plaintiffs

have received from a collateral source. Specifically, BLP is entitled to a set off for the benefits

received by Cin-Q from FaxQom/Michael Wayne Clement to satisfy a judgment in Cin-Q

Automobiles, Inc. v. Michael Wayne Clement, doing business as FaxQom.com, Case No. 8:11-

cv-01502-JSM-AEP in the United States District Court Middle District of Florida Tampa

Division.

7. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs' class allegations are barred as the legislative

intent of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act is for the consumer to appear without an

attorney in a small claims court. Local Baking Products, Inc. v. Kosher Bagel Munch, Inc., 421

N.J.Super. 268, 273 (N.J. Super. App. Div. 2011); Local Baking Products, Inc. v. Westfield

Rental-Mart, Inc., Case No. L-4701-09, 2013 WL 709257, at *2 (N.J. Super. App. Div. 2013).

8. BLP affirmatively states that Cin-Q's claims are barred as Cin-Q has already been

compensated for alleged violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act for receipt of the

same fax at issue in this case in Cin-Q Automobiles, Inc. v. Michael Wayne Clement, doing

business as FaxQom.com, Case No. 8:11-cv-01502-JSM-AEP in the United States District Court

Middle District of Florida Tampa Division.

9. BLP affirmatively states that the Plaintiffs failed to allege demand or futility of demand

for the return of the Plaintiffs' and other Class members' fax machines, toner, paper, and

employee time. Ginsburg v. Lennar Florida Holdings, Inc., 645 So. 2d 49 (Fla. 3d DCA 1994).

10. BLP affirmatively states that the Plaintiffs do not own, or possess rights to the other Class

Members' fax machines, toner, paper and employee time that is the subject of the claim for

Conversion in the Second Amended Class Action Complaint. Page v. Matthews, 386 So. 2d 815

(Fla. 5th DCA 1980).

11. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs' claims are barred pursuant to 47 U.S.C.

§227(b)(1)(C)(i), because Plaintiff and potential class members had an established business

relationship with BLP.

12. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs' claims are barred pursuant to 47 U.S.C.

§227(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II), because Plaintiff and potential class members invited faxes by advertising

or displaying their fax numbers publicly on business cards, advertisements, on the internet, etc.

13. The incident giving rise to this cause of action and the Plaintiffs' damages was the sole

and proximate result or partially contributed thereto from the negligence or other conduct of

persons other than BLP and over whom BLP exercised no control, and with whom BLP has no

legal relationship. Pursuant to Fabre v. Marin, 623 So. 2d 1182 (Fla. 1993), any damages

awarded to the Plaintiffs are subject to apportionment by the jury of the total fault of all

participants in the subject incident. The apportionment of fault statute applies to all named

parties, any settling defendants or parties, and any other person or entity that is discovered to

have been negligent which operated as a legal cause of any injury or damage to the Plaintiffs,

including, but not limited to, FaxQom, Westfax, Inc. a/k/a 127 High Street d/b/a 123 High Street,

Rocket Messaging, Datalink USA Enterprises, Inc. a/k/a Coast to Coast Marketing a/k/a DMI

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Marketing a/k/a Datalink, Datamark Inc., JCFDATA, Inc. Clear Choice Sales, and Concord III,

L.L.C., d/b/a Concord Technologies.

14. BLP affirmatively states that Plaintiffs' claims are barred because Plaintiffs failed to join

an indispensable party. Specifically, Craig Cinque, on behalf of Plaintiff Cin-Q, testified during

his deposition that Cin-Q does not own the facsimile number that received the facsimile for

which it is suing BLP. This Court cannot accord complete relief among the existing parties in

this required party's absence, and thus, the owner of this facsimile number is a required party to

this action.

15. BLP specifically reserves the right to amend the Affirmative Defenses pled above and to

assert additional Affirmative Defenses that become known to them during the course of

discovery.

WHEREFORE, BLP requests all relief to which it is entitled, and any other relief the

Court deems just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

BLP hereby demands trial by jury to all issues by right so triable.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 8, 2014, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF. I also certify that the foregoing document is being served this day on all counsel of record or pro se parties identified on the attached Service List in the manner specified, either via transmission of Notices of Electronic Filing generated by CM/ECF or in some other authorized manner for those counsel of parties who are not authorized to receive electronically Notices of Electronic Filing.

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